LAFAYETTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 133
Lafayette, Calif. 94549

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President: Lee Pfautch Editor: Angela Broadhead

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Speaker: Father William N. Abeloe
Date: March 13
Place: Lafayette School Auditorium
Moraga Road & School St., Lafayette
Time: 8:00 p.m.

You are cordially invited to hear our distinguished speaker, Father William N. Abeloe, tell about a recent tour of Spain sponsored by the Oakland Museum Association. To illustrate his talk, "Spanish Roots of California History," Father Abeloe will show slides of some of the important cities and sites visited while on this Spanish tour.

This March meeting will be a combined one with the Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda Historical Societies. Since this meeting is of interest to all Californians, won't you invite a friend or neighbor to attend with you?

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Membership renewals ran to more than 40 during the month of February. If you have not already done so, won't you please take the time now to send in your check to the Society during our current membership drive? P.O. Box 133 is our new number.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Marion Garthwaite
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Jones
Mr. & Mrs. G. E. Max
Mrs. Judith Lee Stehr

RECENT GIFTS TO THE LAFAYETTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Two cattle branding irons, a survey map of the Sumner Hodges property and six family scrapbooks of photographs were recently donated to our Historical Society by Mrs. Sumner Hodges. The Hodges family has been in this area for more than one hundred years and their ranch was near the site of the present Acalanes High School. The late Mr. Hodges was a member of our Society and was greatly interested in the affairs of Lafayette. The Historical Society thanks Mrs. Hodges for her valuable gifts as well as her continued interest in our organization.

*****MAY EVENTS***** *****MAY EVENTS***** *****MAY EVENTS***** *****MAY EVENTS*****

Three distinct but related events of historical importance are scheduled for May. The old Lafayette School with its original belfry will have a commemorative plaque, deodar trees on Moraga Road will be marked and a House and Landmark Tour is also planned.

OLD LAFAYETTE SCHOOL AND BELFRY TO HAVE COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE

On May 6th the old Lafayette School with its original belfry will be plaqued in a ceremony with the Historical Society and the Methodist Church. Believed to have been built between 1888 and 1893, the exact date the school was built is still being researched by Vern P. Davis and Sandy Kimball.

In 1927 the school house was purchased and remodeled for church services by the Methodist Church on Moraga Road. The part of the church today which serves as social hall and bell tower is the original school structure. The belfry can be seen from the street on the eastern side of the church.

TREES TO BE PLAQUED MAY 6

In 1927 Robert Elam McNeil and his wife Gertrude planted two small deodar trees at the Methodist Church. For 46 years residents have admired the stately trees still growing in front of the church.

On May 6th Mrs. Alice McNeil Russi, will participate in a ceremony in honor of her parents. The Historical Society and the Methodist Church will also participate in this ceremony which will mark these trees.

HOUSE AND LANDMARK TOUR

This date is to be announced.

More details on all these events will be in the April Bulletin. "But plan now to spend an afternoon in Lafayette on Sunday May 6th," said Betsy Willcuts, program chairman.

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